

EXHIBIT B

RIMS searched for Items from Multiple Sources

'989 Patent
3:18-28

Inventory portions of database 20 includes data describing the items and quantities thereof available at a particular Distributor warehouse 30 and at other Distributor warehouses. Other portions of database 20 includes item records for each Product regularly sold by the Distributor. Each item record preferably includes information such as Distributor's catalog or part number for the Product, Distributor's list price, Distributor's current cost, Distributor's supplier (vendor) for the Product and a code identifying the Product as part of a product grouping to be treated similarly for customer discounting purposes.

Items from Distributor

'989 Patent
3:32-37

As described below, database 20 may contain cross-references from Distributor's catalog number to its vendor's part number and to similar catalog numbers of other suppliers or distributors for the same Product, either as a part of the item record, in a separate cross-reference file or both.

Items from "other suppliers or distributors"

'989 Patent
3:62-4:3

Host database 20 also includes data regarding Distributor's cost prices and vendors for items from third-party suppliers 37 and 38 which are regularly distributed by Distributor to its customers. Host database 20 also includes data regarding items from third-party suppliers 39 whose products the Distributor does not routinely supply to its customers. Distributor may elect to stock in Distributor warehouse 30 some or all of the items of a particular vendor of either type 38 or of type 39.

Items from third-party suppliers

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